



BIOGRAPHY



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL RICHARD E. WAGNER

Colonel Richard E. "Rick" Wagner is the Vice Commander, 557th Weather Wing, Offutt AFB, NE. The wing consists of more than 1,450 active duty and civil service personnel at 19 locations around the world providing centralized weather products and services, including climatological and space weather support to Air Force, Army, Joint Force, and other Department of Defense activities. The wing executes worldwide weather operations to enable air and space superiority, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, rapid global mobility, global strike, and command and control in support of all geographic and functional combatant commands.



Colonel Wagner graduated from Oregon State University in 1991 and received his commission through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. He is a non-rated officer aircrew member and master meteorologist. His operational assignments span numerous major and combatant commands leading Airmen and joint personnel in global air mobility, special operations, contingency airbase opening, test and evaluation, airborne nuclear command and control, and weather operations across seven continents. Staff positions include Headquarters Eighteenth Air Force, Headquarters Air Force, United States Strategic Command, and NATO COMKAF.

Colonel Wagner commanded the 571st Contingency Response Group's Global Mobility Readiness Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, CA, and deployed to Eskan Village, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, where he commanded the 64th Expeditionary Support Squadron and served as Deputy Commander, 64th Air Expeditionary Group. Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Wagner served special duty as the Director of Strategic Leadership and a Faculty Instructor at the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA.

EDUCATION

- 1991 Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
- 1993 AFIT Basic Meteorology Program, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
- 1997 Squadron Officers School by Correspondence
- 1999 Master of Science degree in Climatology, AFIT, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
- 2002 Nuclear Weapons Orientation Course, Defense Nuclear Weapons School, Kirtland AFB, NM
- 2003 Air Command and Staff College (ACSC) by Seminar
- 2005 Master of Military Operational Art and Science degree, ACSC, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2007 Air War College by Seminar
- 2007 Mobility Air Forces Mobile Command and Control (MAFC2) Leadership Course, USAF Expeditionary Center, Joint Base McGuire/Dix, NJ
- 2007 Expeditionary Mission Support Group Senior Leaders Course, USAF Expeditionary Center, Joint Base McGuire/Dix, NJ
- 2008 Joint Task Force-Port Opening (JTF-PO) Aerial Port of Debarkation (APOD) Leadership Course, United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), Scott AFB, IL
- 2008 Force Support Contingency Course, AFIT Civil Engineer & Services School, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- 2013 Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy, Concentration in WMD Studies, Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security & Resource Strategy, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, DC
- 2014 Joint Humanitarian Operations Course, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Carlisle Barracks, PA

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Apr 92 - May 93, Student, AFIT Basic Meteorology Program, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
2. May 93 - Oct 94, Weather Officer, 100th Operation Support Squadron, Royal Air Force (RAF) Mildenhall, UK
3. Oct 94 - Mar 96, Officer in Charge, Special Operations Weather Team, 100 OSS, RAF Mildenhall, UK

4. Mar 96 - Aug 97, Chief, Group Weather Operations, 352d Special Operations Group, RAF Mildenhall, UK
5. Aug 97 - Jun 99, Student, AFIT Meteorology Masters Program, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
6. Jun 99 - Aug 00, Commander, Range Weather Operations Flight, 46th Weather Squadron, Eglin AFB, FL
7. Aug 00 - Feb 02, Wing Executive Officer, 46th Test Wing, Eglin AFB, FL
8. Feb 02 - Nov 03, Chief, Mobile Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) Operations, METOC Support Branch (J3624), United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), Offutt AFB, NE
9. Nov 03 - Aug 04, Chief, Airborne METOC Operations and Standardization/Evaluation, METOC Support Branch (OP123), Operations Directorate (OP), USSTRATCOM, Offutt AFB, NE
10. Aug 04 - Jun 05, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
11. Jun 05 - Jul 06, Director of Weather, Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott AFB, IL
12. Jul 06 - Jun 07, Executive Officer, Eighteenth Air Force, Scott AFB, IL
13. Jun 07 - Jul 09, Commander, 571st Global Mobility Readiness Squadron, Travis AFB, CA
14. Jan 09 - May 09, Commander, 64th Expeditionary Support Squadron and Deputy Commander, 64th Air Expeditionary Group, Eskan Village, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
15. Aug 09 - Jul 12, Deputy Chief, Weather Policy and Exploitation Division, Headquarters United States Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, DC
16. Apr 11 - Nov 11, Military Assistant to the NATO Commander of Kandahar Airfield (COMKAF), International Security Assistance Force Joint Command, Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan
17. Jul 12 - Jul 13, Student, Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, DC
18. Jul 13 - Jun 16, Director, Strategic Leadership and Faculty Instructor, Department of Command, Leadership and Management, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA
19. Jun 16 - present, Vice Commander, 557th Weather Wing, Offutt AFB, NE

SUMMARY OF JOINT ASSIGNMENTS

1. Feb 02 - Nov 03, Chief, Mobile Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) Operations, USSTRATCOM
2. Nov 03 - Aug 04, Chief, Airborne METOC Operations and Standardization/Evaluation, USSTRATCOM
3. Jul 13 - Jun 16, Director of Strategic Leadership and Faculty Instructor, U.S. Army War College

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Nonrated Aircrew Member

Flight Hours: 413.3

Aircraft flown: Navy E-6B "Looking Glass" Airborne Command Post (USSTRATCOM)

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
 Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters
 Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster
 Joint Service Commendation Medal
 Air Force Commendation Medal
 Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters
 Joint Meritorious Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters
 Meritorious Unit Award
 Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with nine oak leaf clusters
 Combat Readiness Medal
 National Defense Service Medal with small bronze star
 Afghanistan Campaign Medal with small bronze star
 Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
 Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
 Armed Forces Service Medal with two small bronze stars
 Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal
 Air Force Special Duty Ribbon
 NATO Medal with small bronze star

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant – Nov 14, 1991
 First Lieutenant – Nov 14, 1993
 Captain – Nov 14, 1995
 Major - Sep 1, 2002
 Lieutenant Colonel - Aug 1, 2007
 Colonel - Jun 1, 2013

(Current as of March 2018)